

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Claims 15-50, 52-59, 61-98, 123-184, 201 and 202 are pending in this application. Claims 1-14, 51, 60, 99-122, 185-198, 199 and 200 have been cancelled.

As stated at page 1 and 2 of the Office Action, claims 15-50, 52-59, 61-98, 123-169, 171-184, 201 and 202 are allowed.

In response to the Examiner's request at page 2 of the Office Action, asking the applicants to clarify the status of dependent claim 170, the applicants confirm that claim 170 is pending and not cancelled. The applicants regret any confusion. The applicants ask that dependent claim 170 be added to the allowed claims.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 99-103, 107, 120, 121, 185-188, 192 and 197 under 35 USC 102(a), (b) or (e), or under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Huber et al. This reference does not anticipate the presently claimed invention or make it obvious.

However, please note that the rejected claims have been cancelled, thus making this rejection to be moot.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 99-122, 185-198 and 200 under 35 USC 103(a) over pierce, Burkett and Huber et al. The combined teachings of the cited references do not make the presently claimed invention to be obvious.

However, please note that the rejected claims have been cancelled, thus making this rejection to be moot.

All of the rejected claims have been cancelled. Accordingly, the applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance and the applicants request that a Notice of Allowance be issued showing claims 15-50, 52-59, 61-98, 123-184, 201 and 202 as allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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